

Economic Development Committee
October 7, 2015 4:00 p.m.
Meeting Minutes

PRESENT: Chairman Art Johnson; Supervisors, Daly, Kinowski, Lunde, Sausville, Barrett, Grattidge, Veitch; Chad Cooke, Assistant County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Jason Kemper, Planning Director; Craig Hayner, County Clerk; Andrew Jarosh, County Treasurer; Anna Marie Bellantoni, Saratoga Chamber of Commerce; Peter Bardunias, Chamber of Southern Saratoga County.

Chairman Johnson called the meeting to order and welcomed those in attendance.

On a motion by Mr. Sausville, seconded by Mr. Lunde the minutes of the September 2, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson said the Saratoga County Chamber has requested the designation as Tourism Promotion Agency for Saratoga County. Ms. Bellantoni and each year they request the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce receive designation as the Tourism Promotion Agency for Saratoga County, which will allow the Chamber to apply for the "I Love NY" grant. Ms. Bellantoni said the Chamber expects funding between \$50,000 and \$55,000 if they are approved to apply.

On a motion by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Sausville unanimous approval was given designating the Saratoga County Chamber of Commerce as the Tourism Promotion Agency for Saratoga County.

Mr. Johnson said the Southern Chamber is here today to update the Committee on the projects they have been working on.

Mr. Bardunias handed out an update of 2015 projects and projects projected for 2016. One of the projects they are working on is information that will be available at the rest area on the Northway. He is asking all the municipalities in the County to share with him brochures and information on their communities and he will have it added to this map. People will be able to click on areas of the map and find out about areas to visit while in Saratoga County. Mr. Bardunias will provide the Clerk with information to forward out to all Supervisors requesting such information be submitted to the Southern Chamber.

Mr. Johnson said this year the Governor proposed in his budget the Upstate Revitalization initiative which is a competition between Upstate Regional Economic Development Councils for three separate awards of \$500M. The Capital Region submitted their plan and are looking for support for their plan. The plan is online and is 250 pages. He talked about the part of the plan that spoke about Saratoga County. Mr. Dorsey presented a draft resolution for the Committee's review.

Mrs. Daly said this is worthwhile for the Supervisors to support this plan and is very important for all the County's in the Capital District to support the plan as it will bring accreditation as it goes forward. Mr. Johnson said the Prosperity Partnership made a significant contribution towards the hiring of the consultant that was involved with doing the plan. Mrs. Daly added that part of that funding came from the Capital Resource Corporation.

On a motion by Mrs. Daly, seconded by Mr. Sausville the Support of the Capital Region 20.20 Revitalization Plan was unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson said Chairman Veitch brought a request from GlobalFoundries to declare October as Manufacturing Month in Saratoga County. Mr. Dorsey presented a draft resolution for the Committee's review.

On a motion by Mrs. Daly, seconded by Mr. Lunde proclaiming October 2015 as "Manufacturing Month" in Saratoga County was unanimously approved.

Mr. Johnson said the Open Space Program was reinstated this year as well as a Trails Grant Program. Both committees have met.

Mr. Kemper said before he gives the reports on the programs, he wanted to report that the trail to the top of Spruce Mountain and the Fire Tower in Corinth are officially open.

Mr. Kemper said this is the first year for the Trails Grant Program and a lot of applications were received. \$100,000 was provided in the budget. The Trails Committee awarded \$12,500 to each of the applicants which was a total of 8 projects. Of those projects 2 were feasibility studies and 6 construction projects. The feasibility studies were submitted by the Town of Wilton and the City of Mechanicville. The construction projects were submitted by the Towns of Stillwater, Halfmoon, Clifton Park, Town/Village of Corinth, City of Saratoga Springs and Village of Victory.

Mr. Kemper said there were a total of 7 projects submitted for the Open Space funding. There was \$250,000 provided in this year's budget for the Open Space Program. At the Open Space meeting there was considerable discussion on past grants that did not come to fruition and a resolution is being worked on to present next month with regards to that funding and voided invoices. The 7 projects submitted were 4 farmland protection projects (Malta, Northumberland, Saratoga Springs and Charlton) and 3 open space projects (Milton, Moreau, and Clifton Park). The full amount submitted to the County is \$371,833.10.

Mr. Johnson asked what the two past projects were that are being discussed. Mr. Kemper said they were in Stillwater and Malta. These two projects were not followed through on and therefore not funded.

Mr. Veitch said the former projects that the Board intended to fund had vouchers were drawn up but the projects never came to fruition. The vouchers were voided and the money returned to the General Fund even though the Board had passed a resolution designating that money to open space. Mr. Veitch said the discussion now is to potentially set up a reserve fund to take the money out of the Fund Balance that was intended for open space and put it in this new fund.

Mr. Johnson said there would be no resolutions coming out of Economic Development with regards to Open Space or Trails as they will come out of Law and Finance.

Mr. Johnson said the Town of Malta passed the PDD for Luther Forest Technology Campus which will certainly go a long way in helping that Park develop in the future. He thanked Mr. Sausville and the Town of Malta Town Board.

Mr. Grattidge said the Public Works Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, October 13th and are working towards having a resolution for the County to accept the roads at that time with at least the conceptual arrangements of taking them on January 1.

On a motion by Mr. Kinowski, seconded by Mr. Lunde the meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela Wright, Clerk of the Board